

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1           1.       An electronic device comprising:  
2                   a substantially planar face;  
3                   a switch configured such that successive actuations of the switch  
4       actuates the device between a first state and a second state; and  
5                   a switch actuation mechanism configured to actuate the switch a first  
6       time in response to a first input along the face and a second time in response to a  
7       second input along the face, wherein the second input has at least one characteristic,  
8       other than time at which it is performed, distinct from the first input.
- 1           2.       The device of Claim 1, wherein a function is performed when the  
2       device is in the first state and wherein the function is discontinued when the device is  
3       in the second state.
- 1           3.       The device of Claim 2, wherein the function is printing upon a print  
2       medium.
- 1           4.       The device of Claim 3, wherein the switch actuation mechanism  
2       includes a first movable surface and a second movable surface and wherein the first  
3       input includes moving the first movable surface and wherein the second input  
4       includes moving the second movable surface.
- 1           5.       The device of Claim 1, wherein the switch actuation mechanism  
2       includes a first movable surface and a second movable surface and wherein the first  
3       input includes moving the first movable surface and wherein the second input  
4       includes moving the second movable surface.
- 1           6.       The device of Claim 5, wherein the first movable surface is  
2       depressible.
- 1           7.       The device of Claim 6, wherein the second movable surface is  
2       depressible.

1           8.     The device of Claim 5, wherein the first surface and the second surface  
2 are spaced from one another along the face.

1           9.     The device of Claim 5, wherein the first movable surface has a first  
2 indicia and wherein the second movable surface has a second indicia distinct from the  
3 first indicia.

1           10.    The device of Claim 9, wherein the first indicia and the second indicia  
2 have distinct characteristics chosen from a group including color, shape, size, texture,  
3 markings, alphanumeric symbols and hardness.

1           11.    The device of Claim 10, wherein the first indicia includes a first color  
2 and wherein the second indicia includes a second color distinct from the first color.

1           12.    The device of Claim 11, wherein the first color is green and wherein  
2 the second color is red.

1           13.    The device of Claim 12, wherein the device performs a function upon  
2 movement of the first surface and discontinues the function upon movement of the  
3 second surface.

1           14.    The device of Claim 5, wherein the actuation mechanism includes:  
2                   a first button providing the first surface;  
3                   a second button providing the second surface; and  
4                   an extension coupled to the first button and the second button and  
5 movable relative to the switch.

1           15.    The device of Claim 14 including a guide guiding movement of the  
2 extension relative to the switch.

1           16.    The device of Claim 14, wherein the extension is movable relative to  
2 the first button.

1           17.     The device of Claim 1, wherein the switch actuation mechanism  
2 includes an actuation member slidable along the face, wherein the first input includes  
3 sliding the actuation member in a first manner and wherein the second input includes  
4 sliding the actuation member in a second manner.

1           18.     The device of Claim 1, wherein the actuation mechanism includes an  
2 actuation member pivotally supported along the face, wherein the first input includes  
3 pivoting the actuation member in a first manner and wherein the second input  
4 includes pivoting the actuation member in a second manner.

1           19.     The device of Claim 1 including:  
2                   an imaging material dispensing device;  
3                   a controller coupled to the switch and configured to generate control  
4 signals upon actuation of the switch, wherein the dispensing device dispenses imaging  
5 material and discontinues dispensing imaging material in response to the control  
6 signals.

1           20.     The device of Claim 1, wherein the first input and the second input are  
2 parallel to one another.

1           21.     The device of Claim 1, wherein the switch actuation mechanism is  
2 configured to also actuate the switch the second time in response to a third input  
3 identical to the first input, other than the time at which it is performed.

1           22.     An electronic device comprising:  
2                   a substantially planar face;  
3                   a switch configured such that successive actuations of the switch  
4 actuate the device between a first state and a second state; and  
5                   means along the face for actuating the switch a first time using a first  
6 input and a second time using a second input having at least one characteristic, other  
7 than time at which it is performed, distinct from the first input.

1           23.     The device of Claim 22, wherein the first input and the second input  
2     are parallel to one another.

1           24.     The device of Claim 22, wherein the means for actuating is configured  
2     to also actuate the switch the second time in response to a third input identical to the  
3     first input, other than the time at which it is performed.

1           25.     A method for actuating an electronic device between a first state and a  
2     second state, the method comprising:  
3                 providing a switch configured such that successive actuations of the  
4     switch actuate the device between a first state and a second state;  
5                 applying a first input, along a substantially planar face of the device so  
6     as to actuate the switch a first time; and  
7                 applying a second input along the substantially planar face of the  
8     device so as to actuate the switch a second time, wherein the second input has at least  
9     one characteristic, other than the time at which it is performed, that is distinct from  
10    the first input.

1           26.     The method of Claim 25, wherein the step of applying a first input  
2     includes depressing a first actuation member operably coupled to the switch.

1           27.     The method of Claim 26, wherein the step of applying a second input  
2     includes depressing a second actuation member operably coupled to the switch.

1           28.     The method of Claim 25, wherein the step of applying a first input  
2     includes moving an actuation member in a first manner and wherein the step of  
3     applying a second input includes moving the actuation member in a second distinct  
4     manner.

1           29.     The method of Claim 28, wherein the first manner includes sliding the  
2     actuation member along the face in a first direction and wherein the second manner  
3     includes sliding the actuation member in a second direction along the face.

1           30.     The method of Claim 28, wherein the first manner includes pivoting  
2     the actuation member in a first direction and wherein the second manner includes  
3     pivoting the actuation member in a second direction.

1           31.     The method of Claim 25, wherein the first input and the second input  
2     are parallel to one another.

1           32.     An image forming device comprising:  
2                   an imaging forming engine actuatable between an active state in which  
3     the engine forms an image upon a medium and an inactive state;  
4                   a switch configured such that successive actuations of the switch  
5     actuates the engine between the first state and the second state;  
6                   a first movable input surface configured to successively actuate the  
7     switch; and  
8                   a second movable input surface configured to successively actuate the  
9     switch.

1           33.     The image forming device of claim 32 wherein the first movable input  
2     surface and the second movable input surface are located on a substantially planar  
3     region of an exterior of the device.

1           34.     The image forming device of claim 32 wherein the first movable input  
2     surface and the second movable input surface pivot to successively actuate the switch.

1           35.     The image forming device of claim 32 wherein the first movable input  
2     surface and the second movable input surface slide along a substantially common plan  
3     to successively actuate the switch.

1           36.     The image forming device of claim 32 wherein the first movable input  
2     surface and the second movable input surface are configured to be depressed to  
3     successively actuate the switch.

1           37.     The image forming device of claim 32 wherein the first movable input  
2     surface and the second movable input surface are rigidly coupled to one another.

1           38.    The image forming device of claim 32 including a first button  
2    providing the first movable input surface and a second button providing the second  
3    movable input surface.

1           39.    The image forming device of claim 32 wherein the first movable input  
2    surface and the second movable input surface have distinct associated indicia.